



March 7, 2016

HOUSE RESOLUTION No. 44

Introduced by: Karickhoff

March 7, 2016, read first time and referred to Committee on Public Health.

A HOUSE RESOLUTION raising the awareness of mitochondrial disease and those who suffer from it.

Whereas, Mitochondrial disease results from failures of the mitochondria, specialized compartments present in every cell of the body except red blood cells;

Whereas, Mitochondria are responsible for creating more than 90 percent of the energy needed by the body to sustain life and support growth; failing mitochondria generate less and less energy within the cell, with cell injury and even cell death often following;

Whereas, The heart, brain, muscles, and lungs, the parts of the body that require the most energy, are most affected by



mitochondrial disease;

Whereas, Mitochondrial disease primarily affects children, but adult onset is becoming more and more common;

Whereas, Each year, 1,000 to 4,000 children in the United States are born with a mitochondrial disease, although exact numbers of children and adults suffering from mitochondrial disease are hard to determine because so many people who suffer from mitochondrial disease are frequently misdiagnosed;

Whereas, Those affected by mitochondrial disease may have strokes, seizures, gastrointestinal problems, swallowing difficulties, failure to thrive, blindness, deafness, heart and kidney problems, muscle failure, heat/cold intolerance, diabetes, lactic acidosis, immune system problems, and liver disease;

Whereas, The urging of the legislative council to assign the topic of mitochondrial disease to the appropriate study committee could further attempts to find a cure and relieve some of the painful symptoms associated with this disease; and

Whereas, At this time, there are no cures for these disorders, but awareness of the disease could help bring about a cure: Therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

1 SECTION 1. That the Indiana House of Representatives urges the
2 citizens of Indiana to become aware of the problems created by
3 mitochondrial disease.

4 SECTION 2. That the Principal Clerk of the House of
5 Representatives transmit copies of this resolution to Troy Arnett and
6 his daughter Nico Ryann Arnett.

